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Skiers' spirits lifted with return

Sir Sam's Ski and Ride regular Mike Capel flies through the air, kicking his legs apart for the trick called a daffy during the first weekend the Eagle Lake ski attraction has been open since the provincial imposed lockdown back in December. Starting Saturday, Feb. 20 long lines formed for lifts and food, as COVID-19 protocols, which included greater spacing between people were part of reopening. /DARREN LUM Staff

Board of health advocating for paid sick day benefits

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Acknowledging the difficulty in staying at home and self-isolating for people who do not have paid sick leave benefits, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit's board of health unanimously supported a recommendation from Dr. Ian Gemmill, acting medical officer of health, to advocate for such benefits as part of a public health response to pre-

vent further transmission of COVID-19.

At a board of health meeting on Feb. 18, Gemmill recommended a letter from the board to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Ontario Premier Doug Ford asking for collaboration on the implementation and funding of necessary policies and programs to ensure paid sick day benefits, noting that the necessity of paid sick days as an effective public health response to prevent the transmission of communicable disease is especially apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic, and that low-income house-

holds are less likely to have access to paid sick days, and are less likely to be able to abide by public health recommendations such as not going to work if ill.

"Remaining at home during this pandemic has clearly demonstrated its effectiveness at reducing the spread of COVID-19," noted Gemmill's recommendation. "It was estimated that globally, a one per cent increase in the number of people staying at home resulted in 70 fewer cases and seven fewer deaths weekly."

Statistics Canada reports that 58 per

cent of Canadians do not have paid sick leave, and low-wage workers are less likely to have sick leave benefits. "We really want to control this virus by keeping people who we know are ill, and who we know may be in the position of transmitting this in the work setting or the service setting, from doing so," Gemmill told board members.

While there have been federal responses put in place, Gemmill said, he noted they can be "cumbersome" for the employee, with a delay in when workers

see TIME page 3

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Passion for hockey drives Highland Storm's second session

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

This past Friday the A.J. LaRue arena came alive with the sound of skates on ice, carving and stopping, accompanied by the intermittent ping of a puck off the post or the rattle of a puck off the stanchions of the glass when it gets cleared around the boards, as the Highland Storm resumed its paused season with the start of session two.

With the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District health unit region returning to the Orange-Restrict level of Ontario's COVID-19 Response Framework on Feb. 16, following the provincial wide lockdown, the Storm returned to play with close to 90 per cent of players returning from session one.

Highland Storm president Jason Morissette said it was a unanimous decision by the executive to return to play and that the motivation is and has always been a love for the game of hockey.

"I say it's the reward we get for making sure we're following health and safety. We take that as number one. And take it seriously because we as an association, we certainly do. We talk a lot about it at our meetings, but at the same time some people might forget that and they focus on, yes, we get to play hockey and, yes, that's great, but we only get to do that if we stay in the proper zone," he said. "Who knows how long that will last, but we have a better chance of it lasting longer if everybody [follows through with doing the] right things."

The president's message to the community is health and safety for everyone are central to all decisions.

"It is our top concern," he said.

Working with Ontario Hockey Federation and HKPR district health unit guidelines for returning to organized play, Morissette said two keys to resuming the season was how the region moved to the orange code and hearing from the township about how they were prepared to reopen the doors to the A.J. LaRue.

COVID-19 protocols such as entrance screening and dressing just outside the perimeter of the ice rink's boards will be enforced like session one. A new protocol implemented for session two is only one person is permitted to accompany an under 18 player into the arena, which can effect visiting siblings interested in spectating. However, there is an exception for a player under 18, who requires assistance. Once the help to dress is completed the individual must leave and can return when the session is completed.

As a response to Dr. Ian Gemmill, HKPR district health unit acting medical officer of health, discouraging hockey from happening, Morissette said, "If we're able to provide hockey safely, and if the government was adamant about such a statement, then I guess the only thing I would say is they would have contacted the Ontario Hockey Federation and they would have basically said



Highland Storm hockey returned for session two during the minor hockey association's 2020 - 2021 season with a practice on Friday, Feb. 19 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. See highlandstorm.org for more information on the season and potential to register your son or daughter, as there is still space for certain cohorts./
DARREN LUM
Staff

that sport cannot go. And then of course, community centres would be closed and shut down. So would all the private users as well, right? It's not just minor hockey happening, but there's men's leagues happening and private skates that are happening – rentals," he said. "The other thing is that there is going to be an element of risk involved. There was an element of risk in the first session as well, particular to our local area. Yes, we know we've had cases and we know we may likely have some new cases emerge, but right now the rates are quite low in Haliburton County. We're hoping they stay there and people follow the protocols and adhere to the rules that are there. The more people do that among our members and the more people do that particularly in the community, then we're hopeful it won't go into the community centre and it won't affect hockey. If it does become a problem and an issue, I'm pretty sure the likelihood of us being moved into a red zone is not that far away."

The Storm, per its website, said the season will continue for eight weeks during what was supposed to be the March break and the April break, but will end before its scheduled April 17 end date if the health district moves to the red zone.

There is still space for players to register.

Register online at registration.hockeycanada.ca/registration/?ID=5390.

Refunds are available for players not returning to session two and "credit rollovers and refunds" will be available if the session is cut short because of government restrictions. In accordance with public health policies, all Storm players and coaches must reside in the health unit's region of Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge Dis-

trict, which pertains to all activity at the arena.

Morissette said it's worth crediting the efforts of all the volunteers, particularly with 'Thank A Volunteer Week' from Feb. 22 to 28. There wouldn't be a season without them, he added.

Morissette has appreciated the support and communication provided by Dysart Township during this season. He believes the municipality's efforts show they are aware of the benefit hockey can provide to people, offering an outlet in a safe way.

Another challenge this session and for the future of hockey in the county is the shortage of available officials for this region.

Morissette said there is a small pool of people in the area to officiate games this season, which has required coaches and volunteers with coaching certification to step in to help for four on four games, referred to as "organized scrimmages." He encourages teens and adults with a passion for hockey to join the ranks. An official, he said, can make at least \$25 a game with mileage to games being covered. He adds the Storm will cover costs related to acquiring the necessary certification so contact the association if interested (highlandstorm.org).

After two recent virtual Storm meetings, one between the executive and the coaches, and one with parents, the mood among everyone is positive, Morissette said.

"Everybody seemed comfortable and confident that they can make this work like they did in the first session and give kids an opportunity to get out and skate and do something that's fun to do and have an outlet because they've been cooped up in their houses a lot, particularly during the lockdown," he said.

Echo/Times up for multiple OCNA awards

The *Haliburton Echo* and sister publication the *Minden Times* have been nominated in numerous categories for this year's Ontario Community Newspaper Association's Better Newspapers Competition.

The *Echo* is nominated for general excellence in its circulation class, and former editor Jenn Watt is nominated for stories in the education, health and heritage categories, as well as best headline writing. Darren Lum is nominated in the arts category for a story about an artist capturing self-portraits in self-isolation, as well as in the sports category. Sue Tiffin is also nominated in the environment category for a story about forest schools. The *Echo* is nominated for best sports photo, best sports section, and Lum is nominated for the OCNA's Photographer of the Year.

For the *Times*, Tiffin is nominated in the education writing category for a story about families facing back-to-school decisions amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Chad Ingram is nominated for news writing for a story about a fatal police shooting last July, stemming from a dispute that occurred when a customer was asked to put on a face mask to enter a local grocery store. *Times* columnist Jim Poling Sr. is nominated for Columnist of the Year.

A nomination means either a first, second or third place finish, with the results to be announced virtually on April 23.

Staff

Students displaying symptoms told to stay home for minimum of 10 days

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The Ontario government has introduced changes to the COVID-19 school screening protocol, now calling on students who display even a single symptom to stay home for at least 10 days, or until they have received a negative COVID-19 test result or been cleared by a health care professional.

Since schools returned to in-person learning last month, students have been required to be screened for symptoms prior to entering the classroom.

Those symptoms include: fever and/or chills; cough or barking cough; shortness of breath; decrease or loss of taste or smell; sore throat; difficulty swallowing; runny or stuffy/congested nose; pink eye; headache; digestive issues like nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach pain; muscle aches; extreme tiredness; and falling down often.

Previously, there was no set timeframe on how long students were expected to stay home if they displayed symptoms. Instead, parents were informed to continue screening children until such a time as their symptoms cleared up, or they received a negative COVID-19 test result.

All Trillium Lakelands District School Board students and staff are required to screen for COVID-19 symptoms every morning before coming to school using the Ministry of Health's Ontario COVID-19 self-assessment tool.

Other safety measures implemented by the province include: all students from kindergarten to Grade 12 being required to wear a mask while at school and on the school bus; elementary students wearing masks outside during recess and breaks; secondary students outside on school property or leaving the property for breaks must wear a mask, and are not to congregate in groups larger than five and outside of their cohort.

Also last week, the Ministry of Education announced plans to expand targeted COVID-19 testing for staff and students in all school boards across the province.

"In addition to daily screening, masking and the other health and safety measures, targeted testing in schools is an important layer of protection that helps to limit the spread of COVID-19. Targeted testing will help ensure that our schools remain a safe environment for all to learn and work in," a recent press release states.

Targeted COVID-19 testing is voluntary for asymptomatic students and staff. Consent will be required from parents and guardians of students under the age of 18.

All local COVID-19 information and updates can be found at tldsbc.ca/covid19.

Dysart discusses main priorities outlined in new service delivery review

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Dysart et al council continued to kick the can on its service delivery review process last week, with township CAO Tamara Wilbee providing a thorough breakdown of seven key initiatives outlined by the consultancy firm hired to evaluate the municipality's operations.

Toronto-based firm StrategyCorp was enlisted last year to complete the review. They recently finished an extensive 215 page report, noting that some work and attention to the high-priority initiatives outlined within could represent, at minimum, around \$700,000 in direct operating savings and new revenues for the township.

The seven initiatives outlined by StrategyCorp centre around strategic planning and performance management; customer service; landfill strategy; recreation facilities; short-term rentals; the municipal sewage treatment plant; and bringing more digital infrastructure to Dysart's public works department.

Mayor Andrea Roberts was particularly excited about the potential for an overarching multi-year strategic plan. Council has already earmarked \$25,000 this year to help with its development.

"I want to get the plan finalized. It's going to be beneficial for all staff, all councillors and Dysart council. Even going beyond this term, the next council will know what the priorities are," Roberts said.

Roberts noted she'd like to see a plan finalized by May 2022.

Ward 4 Coun. John Smith said that while he is a "big believer" in the importance of establishing a strategic plan, he worried about the possible implications of this council essentially directing the township's next council on several potential projects and initiatives.

"It would be unfair of this council to harness next council in terms of restricting them in some fashion," Smith said.

Wilbee confirmed the document would be open to change, and suggested the municipality consider adopting recurring four-year planning cycles moving forward.

While council were happy to hold off on any real discussion surrounding recreational facilities, Wilbee noted there are some big-ticket items on the horizon. The A.J. LaRue Arena is going to need significant capital investment within the next 10 years, the CAO explained.

One area that drew significant discussion last week was short-term rentals.

Wilbee noted that implementation of regulations could address community concerns and increase municipal revenues, which in turn would support costs involved with additional enforcement, education and tourism promotion.

One of the suggestions outlined by StrategyCorp is to create a licensing fee for anyone who wishes to rent out their property.

Roberts noted the regulation of short-term rentals has been a long standing issue across Haliburton County. She feels Dysart has the opportunity to be a leader on this front.

Ward 3 Coun. Tammy Donaldson asked what benefits would come with the introduction of licensing fees. Roberts noted it could establish clear rules for operators regarding septic requirements, insurance, parking and fire safety.

Donaldson said she has been researching this issue for close to four years, dating back to when she was chair of the municipality's economic development committee, and feels the introduction of a license would be a mistake.

"Short-term rentals bring more people to the area to experience what our area is all about," Donaldson said. "In my opinion, licensing is not the answer to get homeowners educated to comply to different rules, as the majority do a good job of being respectful already."

While the majority of renters may be operating respectfully at present, Ward 2 Coun. Larry Clarke feels a small

minority may be ruining it for the rest.

"I get complaints about short-term rentals more than anything else. A lot of what I'm getting is about [these rentals] changing the nature of neighbourhoods. These people bought a lakefront home or cottage, and want to be a part of a community, but when they've got a transient community coming and going, many of them parties, it creates a lot of dissatisfaction," Clarke said. "A short-term rental property primarily [being used] for that purpose is a business. It's not a residence, so it has to be looked at differently."

Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy suggested the municipality could adopt a two-tier system, separating regular cottagers who rent out their property a couple of times a year from those who own simply to operate as a full-time rental.

It was decided that council would invite iHost, an online platform, to discuss the merits of establishing an online licensing system for short-term rentals in Dysart. Wilbee said a special council meeting will be scheduled over the coming weeks to further debate the issue.

Time for Ontario to take lead, says Dr. Gemmill

from page 1

"These temporary measures are more difficult to claim than mandated, immediately accessible paid sick days," said Gemmill's report. "Furthermore, application to these benefits is subject to delays, stringent eligibility and the amount paid after tax is less than a full-time minimum wage job in most provinces. The result is that workers may report to work, regardless of being ill."

Besides Bill 239, Stay Home If You Are Sick Act, 2020, giving employees the right to seven days of paid and three days of unpaid emergency leave every year and a provincial support program to help business owners cover those costs, which was tabled by NDP MPP Peggy Sattler last December and was carried on the first reading, other cases for paid sick leave provisions have been made by the World Health Organization in a 2010 report, by the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada in a 2020 report, and by Toronto city council and the Toronto Board of Health, as well as the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area mayors and chairs. Canada does not currently have a federal legislation that offers paid sick leave to all Canadians, said Gemmill's report, and of ten provinces, only two have legislated minimal paid sick leave. The Progressive Conservative government, which repealed access to two paid sick days in 2018, has opposed growing pressure from politicians and medical experts to legislate paid sick days, noting that the federal sickness benefits should be enough, though critics note they are temporary.

"There is interest at the federal level to work with provinces to negotiate a new paid sick day system," said Gemmill. "In the wake of this pandemic and the urgency to mitigate further transmission of COVID-19 in the community, now is an opportune time for the Government of Ontario to take lead, in collaboration with the federal government, to implement and fund necessary policies and programs to provide sufficient paid sick day benefits that are accessible and timely when outbreaks occur. It should remove barriers for low-wage workers to get tested, self-isolate and follow crucial coronavirus control measures."

He said they could add wording to recommend that job security after sick leave was guaranteed, and stating support of the private members bill before the legislature.

A copy of the letter will also be sent to Christine Elliott, Ontario's Minister of Health, Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and Monte McNaughton, Ontario's Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, Ontario boards of health, as well as area MPs and MPPs.



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Region sees 1,000th case of COVID-19

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit press conference held virtually Feb. 17.

The health unit marked a milestone over this past weekend, reporting the 1,000th confirmed case of COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic in the HKPR district.

Dr. Ian Gemmill, HKPRDHU acting medical officer of health, said that at this point, the cases are mostly being linked to household contacts, close contacts, and some inadvertent exposures. In the

last two weeks, most cases were being reported in the 30 to 39-year-old age group, and then in the 20 to 29-year-old age group.

"I can't draw any firm conclusions from this, except to say that it's a phenomenon that we've seen in other places and it tends to happen when people are not paying attention to the gathering recommendations," he said. "And so I'm inferring from this - although I can't say for sure - I'm inferring from this that perhaps some of the gatherings we're trying to discourage, perhaps are still happening."

He reiterated that despite the provincial lockdown largely being lifted, gatherings and travelling should be avoided, and distancing and mask-wearing should continue.

About a third of the cases were out-

break related, Gemmill said.

Wearing mask properly can help reduce risk of spread

When asked about updated guidance on mask wearing, which mask to use, and whether or not double masking is recommended given the spread of highly transmissible COVID-19 variants, Gemmill said: "My best advice is, stay home."

"We want the best possible mask for the people who are looking after patients with coronavirus, because that's where the real risk is," said Gemmill. "If you're going to get your hair cut, or going to another service ... I think the important thing ... is to have a face covering of some kind, and to make sure it fits and that it's comfortable so you're not always [using your hands to adjust] it, and getting whatever's on your mask all over your hands."

Gemmill said he has observed that happening when he sees people wearing masks on TV, the mask being worn under the nose or being adjusted repeatedly by the wearer.

He said masks that are reusable should be washed frequently, and disposable masks should not be reused - using a disposable mask for an hour or two prior to replacing it would be prudent.

"I think like everything else that's going on with this virus, it's hugely confusing," he said.

Gemmill said people should ensure their face is covered with at least one layer, and that he would not fault anyone who was most comfortable wearing a mask from the pharmacy with a cloth mask over it.

A mask reduces the risk of acquiring the virus, but does not eliminate it, he said.

Vaccine shipment expected this week

The 1,700 residents in long-term care homes throughout the HKPR district have now been immunized with their first vaccine, Gemmill said, a process which took two weeks. The health unit is in line to receive the second dose for those residents. This week, more than 4,500 Pfizer vaccines are scheduled to be delivered to the

health unit, though Gemmill said that depends on how many vaccines can be used from each vial - potentially as many as six.

"Forty-five hundred doses will allow us to begin immunization of those staff at long-term care homes, the high-priority healthcare workers," said Gemmill. "The floodgates haven't opened, but the supply is improving."

For those waiting in line behind the highest risk of the population, Gemmill said, it's going to be a while yet, but it won't be long.

"I'm certainly hopeful we'll be able to get everyone done by the end of the summer, as has been promised by [the government]," he said.

The vaccine will be stored at both Ross Memorial Hospital and Northumberland Hills hospitals, which have the freezer capability to store the vials, which must be kept at a certain temperature. Gemmill said a freezer might come to Haliburton, as well.

"The ministry had a little foul-up, I think they're just trying to get stuff out the door, so Ross ended up with two freezers, and I don't think they need both of them so we're trying to get this spread out geographically as much as we can," he said at a board of health meeting last week. "That's not happening yet, but we're working on it."

The health unit has announced that there is not currently a waiting list for the first doses of COVID-19 vaccines in the region, and have asked that you do not call your health care provider or the health unit looking to be added to a list. More information about vaccinating the general public will be widely distributed when sufficient vaccine supply is available. An online and phone appointment system for residents across the province to make reservations for the vaccine is being developed by the province but is not available yet, Gemmill said.

Two additional cases test positive for variant

Two additional cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed to test positive as variants of concern, however, the cases are household contacts of the Port Hope case that had on Feb. 9 become the region's first identified case of variant. The house-

see MOH page 5

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Big cash prize awarded

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation's executive director Lisa Tompkins, at front right, reads the winning ticket belonging to Stephen Tinling of Toronto, who won the \$20,000 for the annual Cash for Care Cash Lottery while board chairperson, Eric Recalla, director, Cathy Mack, and vice-chairperson, David Zilstra applaud the occasion on Monday, Feb. 15 at the Haliburton hospital in Haliburton. Other winning tickets drawn that day belonged to Jack and Loretta Billings for \$2,000 and Betty Austin for \$1,500. The annual draw, which sold 84 per cent of tickets printed, exceeding last years total, will help to raise funds for a vital signs monitor. /DARREN LUM Staff

SIRCH offering pathway to jobs through free four-month programs

MIKE BAKER

Editor

SIRCH Community Services is preparing to relaunch a pair of popular programs designed to help area residents learn new skills and potentially enter the workforce.

The 'Cook It Up' and 'Ready For Retail' initiatives have trained dozens of individuals in recent years. Introduced back in 2015, the programs are offered by SIRCH completely free of charge in partnership with Fleming College.

"These programs will help you gain the skills and confidence you need to find success," said Gena Robertson, SIRCH executive director. "Our goal is to get you employed, or self-employed."

The programs run over a period of four months, and are being offered both online and in-person, at the SIRCH Training Centre at 49 Maple Avenue in Haliburton.

'Cook It Up' teaches individuals how to work in a professional kitchen. Working alongside professional chefs, participants will learn skills such as knife handling, nutrition, cooking and serving. Trainees will be provided with the opportunity to showcase their talents at the SIRCH Community Kitchen and Bistro, which reopened to the public last week.

The 'Ready for Retail' program

trains people how to work effectively in retail spaces. Individuals will be taught "invaluable" skills, such as how to work in a team, how to work with difficult people, what to do about stress, and how to focus on the positives during tough situations. Those enrolled in the program will also learn about cashier duties, merchandizing, and loss prevention. Practical experience will be gained by working in the SIRCH Marketplace, a vibrant store attached to the Bistro that is filled with unique items from dozens of county-based artists and entrepreneurs.

Robertson noted that 90 per cent of the programs' graduates have been offered jobs upon graduation.

She pointed out that one of the major plus points, as reported by those who have gone through the programs, is the flexibility of the instructors and willingness to create a successful plan for those with busy and hectic schedules.

"We can help you solve any practical issues that may stand in your way, like if you don't have transportation, or need to be home when the kids get off the bus," Robertson said. "And you'll [also] get a hot lunch any day you're on site."

She added, "Our instructors will make you feel confident in no time."

The programs are due to begin soon. Those interested are encouraged to contact SIRCH at info@sirch.on.ca, or call 705-457-1742. For more information, visit www.sirch.on.ca.

MOH 'pleading' that public avoid non-essential activity

from page 4

hold cases had been in quarantine together and it was expected that the additional two cases would also test positive for the variant. It is not yet known by the health unit which variant was identified.

"This is a controlled situation," said Gemmill. "Since they've all been quarantined, I'm not worried particularly about these cases."

Across Ontario, Gemmill said, the proportion of positive cases that are constituted by the variants of concern are rising, and that he was hearing "worrisome chatter" about it being identified in other parts of Ontario.

"We have been affected, but in a very minor way, but this is becoming a big issue across the province of Ontario," he said.

The variants are more transmissible than the original virus, and can amplify cases because of the ease in which it spreads, which has led to speculation about a potential third wave and lockdown to protect hospital capacity.

"Anything is possible, but I'll be completely forthright with you, the way this variant is behaving, the one

from the U.K. primarily, I'm not sure we're going to have control of it, so it could theoretically replace the original virus and become the dominant one, and then it's going to be a lot more difficult to control."

Avoid gathering, travelling, upsurge of cases

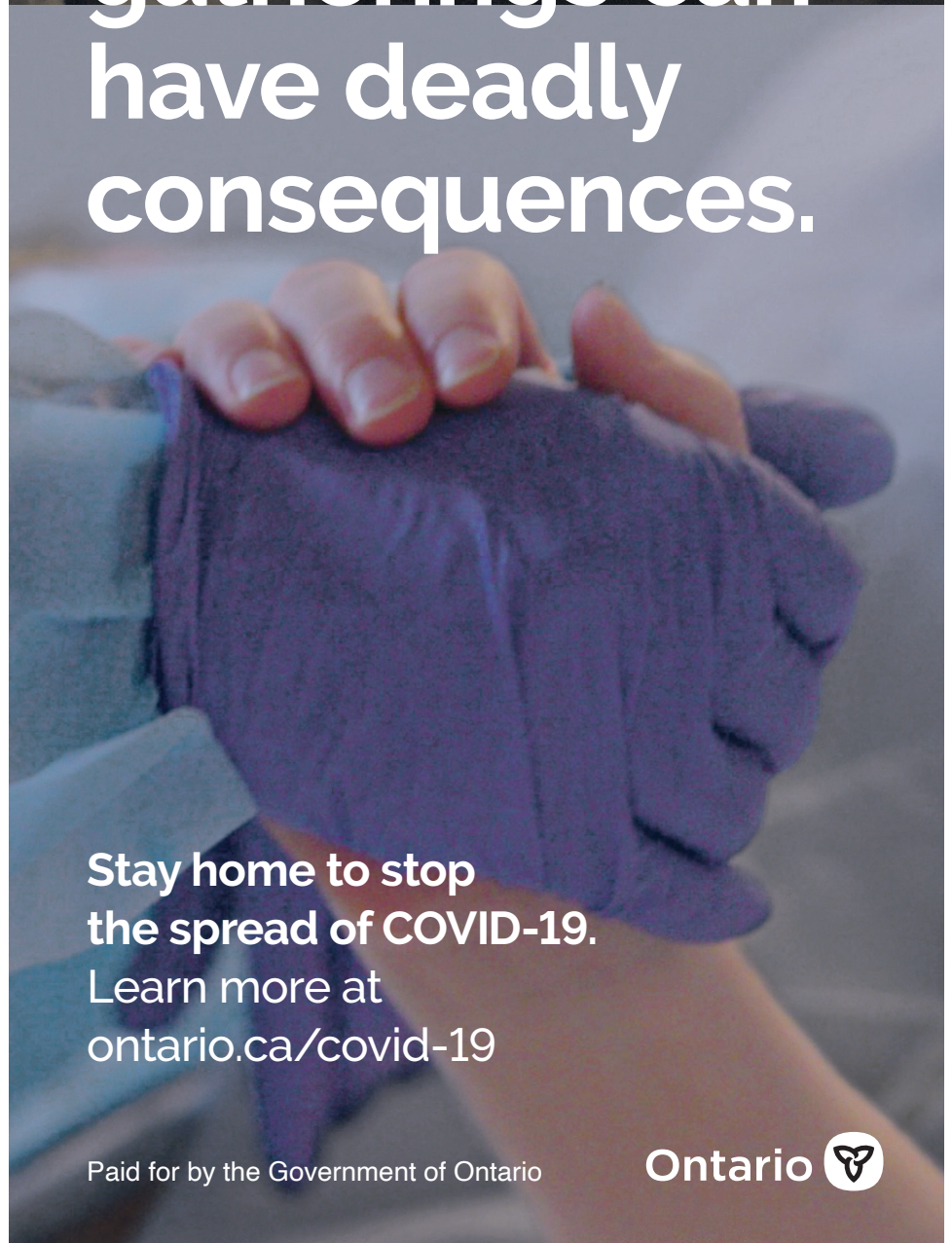
The press conference marked the first since the provincial reopening and relaxation of the stay-at-home order, which Gemmill has stressed does not mean that the pandemic has resolved, and that an upsurge of cases is likely if public health measures are not followed. Over the past two weeks, since the reopening was announced by the province, Gemmill has said that he is "pleading" with the public to avoid non-essential activity until more of the population is vaccinated to avoid losing the advantage gained by the lockdown.

"The only thing worse than being in lockdown is being in and out, and in and out of lockdown," he said.

For more information, visit <http://www.hkpr.on.ca>.



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Drive to the conditions

ON MONDAY we received yet another reminder of what life is like in the Great White North during the winter. Snow blankets covered our roads, while flurries flew through the air, creating less than ideal driving conditions.

One would think that, by now, we would have grown more accustomed to living with the harsh realities of Canadian winters. Alas, that doesn't appear to be the case. I saw several social media posts throughout the day bringing attention to at least three incidents in the county where vehicles ended up in a ditch. On my drive in, through Bobcaygeon and Kinmount and down Gelert Road, I witnessed the aftermath of two similar incidents.

The words 'drive to the conditions' are a staple of drivers ed courses nationwide these days, yet when conditions are at their very worst, these sort of stories are common place. While, undoubtedly, there are some cases when crashes simply cannot be avoided, if we all applied a little common sense to our driving during inclement weather, the number of collisions and subsequent calls to tow truck operators would drastically decrease.

Trust me, I speak from experience. Around 10 years ago, I got into a fairly bad accident because I wasn't doing the very thing I'm preaching about right now.

In the early morning, during a particularly horrendous snowstorm, I made my way out. I didn't adjust my driving practices. As I came over a slight bump in the road, I knew immediately that I was in trouble.

I was gaining on a big truck, whose owner was, I might add, driving to the conditions. Inexperienced, I slammed on my brakes.

What happened next remains one of the most terrifying moments of my life. My car spun 180- degrees, entered the lane of oncoming traffic and slid beyond the truck. I was expecting a

smash at any minute as the inevitable rush of oncoming traffic grew closer. I'm not sure what compelled me to do it, but, now clear of the truck, I pulled on my steering wheel, veering left and back into my rightful lane, albeit facing the wrong way. I smashed through a few mailboxes, narrowly avoided hitting another truck idling at the end of a driveway and, eventually, flew into the ditch. My car warped around a wooden hydro pole and rested on its side.

I remember sitting there not fully contemplating what has just happened. I heard movement outside and it dawned on me that, for safety reasons alone, I should probably clamper out of my now destroyed vehicle. I expected to be met with anger, but instead those that had stopped were simply concerned about my health and wellbeing. I guess, since I wasn't hurt, I didn't think it was a big deal.

Upon observing the scene, the tow truck operator that arrived removed his hat and turned to me. What he said made me understand just how big a deal this really was.

"I'm almost afraid to ask, but did the driver

make it?" he looked at me warily.

Taking a moment to consider the question, I told him that I was the driver. I wasn't hurt. I didn't have a single scratch on my body. After pulling my car out of the ditch and onto his tow, he motioned for me to take a look at the damage I'd caused. He pointed to a huge dent – the impact point of the wooden hydro pole. It couldn't have been more than two feet down from my driver-side front door.

"That's how close you came to dying, kid," he said.

So, when I ask you to slow down and drive to the conditions, know that it comes from someone who has already made the mistake. I was fortunate that I was able to walk away. Please don't take that chance.



mike
baker

Editorial



Snow shadows

by Darren Lum

The businessman

JIM WONDERED if it would ever end. The snow plough just went by, pushing its contribution to his current snow clearing job. After last night's weather event, he had been shoveling for an hour. With at least another hour to go.

Every winter at about this time Jim thinks seriously of buying a snow-blower. But then the temperatures warm as March lurks just off to the side and so he decides he doesn't really need one now. And by next fall the memory of days like today have faded enough that he tells himself he doesn't have to spend the money when he has two good arms and a shovel.

Pausing to stretch his back, he looks at the deep white surrounding him.

Hard to believe there was life under it all, life sleeping and waiting for change. After a big long drink of melted snow, the sun will add its warmth like some secret ingredient and before he knows it, the magic of growth will commence. The green will take over from white, his back and arms will have lost ten years of age and he'll be ready to dig and plant and marvel once again at Mother Nature.

But not now. The marvels of Mother Nature when it came to ice, snow and wind from the north, were far from marvelous. More like a curse. However Jim tried to not think in such negative terms. So he cast his mind to other thoughts and times.

That's when he heard his mother's voice. She was down in the basement at their old house. It was laundry day and Mum was in what she referred to as 'the black hole of Calcutta' wrestling with an ancient wringer washer and cursing the universe as she worked it. With a family of six, there was never a shortage of dirty clothes.

But today the eight year-old Jim heard a shriek from the bowels below. In a pounding flash of footsteps, Mum was up the basement stairs. Jim knew what it was without being told as he had been down this road before. Frogs.

Frogs in the basement were a common occurrence especially in the

spring. The old house had all kinds of nooks and crannies in its ancient foundation and with a marshy area at the back of the property – well frogs happened. And Mum hated frogs. She said they were slimy, spongy and disgusting creatures of which she wanted no part.

"Jimmy come get that frog out of the basement," she called from the kitchen. He was upstairs in his room but he'd have to have been deaf not to hear this familiar request. There was no way Mum would touch one of those annoying amphibians.

Down in the basement it took no time for the young Jim to find a frog under the laundry sink. Scooping it up, he headed it back upstairs to the kitchen

as Mum stepped back. Just in case the frog decided to attack. For the thousandth time, she instructed her son to deposit the creature back in the marsh where it must have originated. Then she added, "Jimmy I'll give you a nickel for every frog you take out of the basement." This sounded like a good deal to the young entrepreneur.

As he walked outside he suddenly had a moment of inspiration.

Not sure if it would work, he decided to give it a try. So turning around, he headed back toward the house and more specifically, the basement window. He still had the frog in his hand. Pushing the old window ajar, he dropped the frog through the opening. Then going back inside, he suggested to his Mum that he should check for more frogs. Of course she agreed with alacrity and a shutter.

The rest of the afternoon was spent retrieving a lot of frogs from the basement. In fact Jim made fifty cents in total with the same frog. His Mum was dumfounded that so many slimy things had managed to get into the house.

And Jim learned a valuable lesson about supply and demand. Now if he could just figure out a buyer for all the snow he might be able to buy that snow blower right now.

Down



sharon
lynch

Our road

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points of view

The Sharktopus in the room

Though I have been writing this column for more than 20 years now, I'd like to think I still have a surprise or two to offer. For instance, I bet you didn't know that I was a movie aficionado – and I'll confess, a fairly discriminating consumer of the films I digest.

That's why I was so disappointed in a film I chose to engage in on the weekend called Sharktopus. It is a little-known foreign film (made in the U.S.) that was on my list.

On the surface, it had all the qualities I look for in a meaningful cinematic experience – namely sharks. But then the producers went the extra mile by creating a film about a secret experiment in which a father-daughter scientific team created a creature that was part shark and part octopus for the military. And then, as if the premise couldn't get any more plausible, the electronic harness controlling the sharktopus malfunctioned (as these things do), and, as you would expect, the creature went wild terrorizing the seaboard.

Sadly, here's where the plot faltered.

The first victims were two labourers who were sitting and having lunch on a platform that hung off the side of a ship. At that exact time, the sharktopus circled below and then shot its 50-foot tentacles upwards, out of the water, pulled each of them off the platform and turned them into lunch.

I can't tell you any more than that – because this is when I turned the movie off.

You see, right around that point in the film, the film was no longer believable for me. There's not a snowball's chance in hell that one, let alone both of those guys, would not have been wearing a safety harness – especially, since the film's historical era coincided with our modern workplace health and safety regulations.

I understand this is a minor flaw in the screenplay but, for me, it was the deal breaker. For, if I am going to give myself completely to a cinematic experience, I cannot have nagging doubts as to whether or not a scene could have occurred.

Yes, I understand filmmakers take liberties with reality to make a plotline move along. But this was too much. Frankly, I was flabbergasted by the oversight.

I get it. Had they been wearing the prescribed relevant safety harnesses, the sharktopus might have had a harder time pulling them down to its toothy shark mouth. Then they might have lived to tell the tale and the trajectory of the story would have been altered inexorably.

But I contend a good screenwriter would have been able to work with this and perhaps even develop the characters a bit to weave more sophistication, allegory, and depth into, what was up to that point, the majestic tapestry of the plot. And, as a discriminating cinephile, I would have applauded the effort. For I expect more from a film like this.

But no. Instead, they went down the less believable road, knowing that most movie-goers would forgive the transgression.

Yet the mistake was at their own peril. This is the kind of blunder that takes a film like this out of Oscar contention.

That is a shame. I'm no movie critic, but, if you ask me, Sharktopus was, up to that point, a real contender.

Instead, it turned out to be a total waste of my time. And that is something I cannot abide.

Hopefully, the book will be better.



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

The Grand Hotel (built in 1896) was once the most imposing structure on the main street of Haliburton Village. This photo, taken in 1902, features members of the Lucas family who ran the hotel. Several local luminaries also appear. The hotel was an important destination for commercial travellers who set up shop and invited local merchants to peruse their wares. The Lucas family ran the hotel until the 1940s, after which it changed hands several times. It was ultimately remodelled into a Stedmans Department Store, which burnt Aug. 24, 1986. Photo courtesy of the Haliburton Highlands Museum.

COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County

County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current High Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to Date)	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)
Haliburton	1	1	0	51	50	2	0	0
Kawartha Lakes	20	71	1	528	468	27	40	13
Northumberland	22	74	0	430	397	15	11	0
Total***	43	154	1	1,009	915	44	51	13

One current COVID-19 case not resolved in Haliburton County

As of Feb. 22, there were no new confirmed cases of COVID-19 reported in Haliburton County, with one current case not resolved and one current high-risk contact. The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit saw its 1,000th case of COVID-19 this past weekend, reporting to date a total of 1,009 COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began last March./Submitted



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
mike@haliburtonpress.com



Above, volunteer Annie Gilmour leads her group of skiers during a Jack Rabbit lesson, as facilitated by the Haliburton Highlands Nordic Trail and Ski Club Association on Saturday, Feb. 20 at Glebe Park in Haliburton.



Young Nordic skiers take to the track for Jack Rabbit lessons



On track for fun

A young Nordic skier participates in a Jack Rabbit lesson, as facilitated by the Haliburton Highlands Nordic Trail and Ski Club Association on Saturday, Feb. 20 at Glebe Park in Haliburton. This was the first day for the fun, learning program this season, which was delayed because of the provincial restrictions related to public gatherings to prevent transmission of COVID-19. With the help of volunteers, the instructional program provides not only instruction, but also encourages interest in Nordic skiing to children starting at four-years-old. The six-level program, which also includes Track Attack for older children, is held every Saturday from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Glebe Park. See website (www.skihaliburton.com/youth-programs/) for more information. /DARREN LUM Staff



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New Nick Russell album to be released next week

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Virtuosic Haliburton Highlands guitarist Nick Russell is dropping a new album March 1.

Entitled ARCHTOP, the album takes its name from the 1949 Gibson L-7 guitar Russell used throughout its recording. Archtop guitars mimic the body architecture of symphonic instruments such as violins or cellos, and as Russell explains, were pioneered by acoustic engineer Loyd Loar for the Gibson Guitar Corporation in the 1920s.

"The guitar itself came to me via a guitar student of mine," Russell told the *Echo* in an email. "My student purchased the restored instrument from Folkway Music in Waterloo. I imagine an instrument that's over 70 years old has a bit of a story. For me, the story starts when I realized my particular playing style seems to suit this type of instrument; archtop guitars have a fast attack, not many overtones, and can be extremely expressive when played the right way. Having acquired this guitar from my student a few years back, it's been my go-to acoustic guitar since."

Russell explains the L-7 was considered a "working man's guitar," a dressed-down version of the more grandiose Gibson L-5. "These types of guitars were made famous by players like Eddie Lang in the 1920s and became the Cadillac of American acoustic jazz guitars up until the advent of electricity," he wrote. "Gibson did then electrify the L-5, but it meant an altogether different sound."

The songs on the album are a mixture of Russell's arrangements of jazz standards, traditional music, some solo guitar pieces, and even a Hank Williams tune.

A promotional video for the album shows Russell playing his arrangement of "You Are My Sunshine," which seems to have a lulling, soothing effect to it.

"I am not sure why it's soothing – some of the chords I use are a bit strange and unnerving!" Russell wrote of the songs on the album. "That being said, I do play rubato (the musical word for playing without any time or beat) a fair amount on this record. It's a spacious sound that a lot of people are not immediately used to and is known to put people to sleep. This is why I include the weird chords – to wake people back up!"

On five of the album's 10 tracks, Russell is joined by friend Robert Lee on upright bass. "He's a fine upright bassist currently doing his Master's at Berklee College in Valencia, Spain," Russell wrote. "We've done numerous gigs together and I knew he'd be a good fit for this collection."

More information on Lee can be found

“

I saw the forced closure of my business as an opportunity to create this album.

— Nick Russell

at robertleebass.com)

Russell owns and operates Haliburton Guitar Studio, which provides lessons, recording, and other music industry services. Like many business owners, his usual course of events has been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and he took the mandated closure of the in-person aspects of his business as a chance to record ARCHTOP.

"Having two young kids and running a business can be very entropic," he wrote. "I usually do not have time to devote to recording the arrangements and ideas that come up from time to time. My teaching practice in Haliburton (and internationally over Zoom) is also quite busy. I saw the forced closure of my business as an opportunity to create this album. I am very fortunate to have a very supportive partner (my wife, Stephanie) and there were numerous days over the lockdown where I would head into the studio for the day for the sole purpose of working on this music."

ARCHTOP will be available for purchase March 1 on Russell's website nicholasrussell.ca and is the preferred method of purchasing the album. The album will also be available on streaming service Bandcamp on March 1, and other streaming services as of April 1. Russell is also producing physical CDs which will be available in April. Internationally, those CDs will be available for purchase through Bandcamp, while county residents can simply email Russell at haliburtonguitarstudio.ca and arrange to pick up a copy at the studio, located in Haliburton Village.

**GET IT
online**

 www.haliburtonecho.ca



Haliburton's Nick Russell will release his new album, ARCHTOP, on March 1. /Submitted photo

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Keep eyes open for Hydro One letters

Seasonal residents in the county may want to keep an eye out for letters from Hydro One, with details on the next step of the process by which the Ontario

Energy Board is eliminating the seasonal rate class.

As previously reported, on Sept. 17, the Ontario Energy Board, the province's energy regulator, ruled to uphold a 2015 directive that Hydro One eliminate the seasonal rate classification from its billing system, placing seasonal properties under existing density-based classifications, based on their physical location.

"Every seasonal resident will be receiving a detailed letter from Hydro One," Spencer Gill, vice president of customer service for the utility, told the *Echo*, explaining those letters contained information on how customers could provide input on the next phases of implementation.

The crux of the OEB's justification for the change is that under the seasonal property classification, seasonal property owners, depending on the location of their properties, do not necessarily pay their fair share in terms of infrastructure and delivery costs. Seasonal properties will be reclassified as either medium-density (R1) or low-density (R2), and bills for properties that are re-classified as R2 are the ones that will see an increase, of close to \$1,000 per year in some cases, according to Hydro One. Of the approximately 154,000 seasonal properties in Ontario, some 84,000 will be reclassified as R2, and some 70,000 as R1. It's possible that properties in the R1 category will see only small increases, effectively no change, or even small decreases in the size of their bills, depending upon location.

Implementation of the new billing structure could come as soon as 2022, and Gill said he encouraged all seasonal customers to get involved by providing input.

Chad Ingram, Staff

Crossword brought to you by

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RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH



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- CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Ancient Persian city
 - 5. Spindles
 - 11. Stake
 - 12. Retrain
 - 16. Close by
 - 17. Commercial
 - 18. One who publicly announces
 - 19. American ballplayer
 - 24. Junior's father
 - 25. Go up or climb
 - 26. Concern
 - 27. When you hope to get there
 - 28. Iacocca and Oswald are two
 - 29. Plant of the lily family
 - 30. Male college organization
 - 31. National capital
 - 33. Raccoonlike animal
 - 34. Symbols of fertility
 - 38. Astronomy unit
 - 39. Series of ridges in anatomy
 - 40. Hebrew leader
 - 43. A portent of good or evil
 - 44. Supreme goddess
 - 45. Gelatinous substance
 - 49. Engage in a contest
 - 50. Famed ballplayer Ruth
 - 51. Pledge
- CLUES DOWN

 - 1. Shoe
 - 2. Disquiet
 - 3. Posture
 - 4. Large nests
 - 5. Soviet "Second Symphony" composer
 - 6. Joins two pipes of different diameter
 - 7. Exist
 - 8. Overdose
 - 9. Pleat of fabric
 - 10. Predict the future
 - 13. Burgeoning technology
 - 14. Having made a valid will
 - 15. Having no fixed course
 - 20. __ route
 - 21. Lethal dose
 - 22. Indian musical pattern of notes
 - 23. Athlete
- 27. Geological times
 - 29. Atomic #21
 - 30. In support of
 - 31. Brew
 - 32. Certificate of insurance
 - 33. Taxi
 - 34. Type of saying
 - 35. For cigars
 - 36. Phil __, former CIA
 - 37. Local area network
 - 38. Gym class
 - 40. Philippine Island
 - 41. Not great or bad
 - 42. Eastern part of NY state
 - 44. Gov't lawyers
 - 45. Constructions
 - 46. Former British gold coin
 - 47. Unkeyed
 - 48. Rechristen
 - 50. Threaten persistently
 - 51. Southeast
 - 52. Cools your home
 - 54. Removes the leaves
 - 55. Regretted
 - 57. Thus
 - 61. Relief organization (abbr.)
 - 62. Exclamation of surprise
- Answers on page 12



Facilitating healthy options

Rotary Club of Haliburton member Jim Joseph helps sort items for the Good Food Box - Rotary Club of Haliburton program on Thursday morning, Feb. 18 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. This program, which recently received \$11,000 through the federal government's New Horizons for Seniors COVID-19 Response Fund to help seniors and those in low-income housing, provides fresh vegetables and fruit at an affordable price delivered to people throughout the Highlands. From a partnership between Rotaract and Minden Pride, who wanted an initiative to give back to the community, there were close to 200 toothbrushes added to this past delivery of produce. For more information see www.haliburtoncountyfoodnet.com/good-food-box.html. /DARREN LUM Staff



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Canada

Second Talk with the Doc meeting planned for March 2

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Members of the public can now connect directly with the health unit's acting medical officer of health and have questions related to COVID-19 and the ongoing pandemic answered in 'Talk with the Doc' virtual sessions, the first of which was held Feb. 16 with more than 150 people registered to attend, and the next which is scheduled to happen March 2.

"Our very strong feeling is that the more information we can get out, the better off we all are," said Dr. Ian Gemmill during the first Talk with the Doc session. Gemmill is acting as interim medical officer of health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit for the next few weeks, when Dr. Natalie Bocking takes on the MOH position, replacing Dr. Lynn Noseworthy after her retirement.

At that meeting, participants asked questions about when they might be able to sign up for vaccinations, inquiries about the variants of concern and clarification about local public health guidelines, including travelling and snowmobiling.

Gemmill reiterated the message he has been sharing in weekly press conferences and that has regularly been reported in the *Echo*, to follow public health guidelines that include wearing a mask and staying physically distanced from others, and said he was "pleading" with the public to - despite the lifting of stay-at-home orders - continue avoiding gatherings, travelling and non-essential outings including birthday parties and hockey games until more of the population is vaccinated, citing concern about the highly transmissible COVID-19 variants of concern.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit has now reported more than 1,000 cases of COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic last year, and within that number, more than 50 deaths,



Dr. Ian Gemmill, acting medical officer of health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit, will host the second virtual town hall meeting on March 2. Register at hkpr.on.ca. /File photo

primarily because of outbreaks.

The first Talk with the Doc meeting held Feb. 16 is available for viewing in full at the HKPRDHU YouTube channel, or on the *Haliburton Echo* digital version of this story at haliburtonecho.ca.

A second 'Talk with the Doc' virtual meeting will be held March 2 from 1 to 2 p.m., and later uploaded to the health unit's YouTube channel. To register for that session, visit hkpr.on.ca. Space is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis.



Our very strong feeling is that the more information we can get out, the better off we all are.

— Dr. Ian Gemmill, acting medical officer of health, HKPRDHU



NOTICE 2021 SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS

Under the Highway Traffic Act and County By-Law #2216, the County of Haliburton enforces reduced load restrictions on trucks to protect the County roadways during spring thaw, when road damage is most likely to occur.

Restriction on permits issued under the Highway Traffic Act and County By-Law #2216:

As outlined in the Highway Traffic Act and County of Haliburton By-Law #2216, reduced loading may be in effect in the County of Haliburton as early as 12:01 a.m. on March 1, 2021.

The actual date of reduced load limit enforcement will be in effect when and where signs are posted. All annual and project permits for moving of heavy vehicle loads, objects or structures, in excess of limits set out in the Act and the By-Law, unless otherwise specified, are not valid on any County Roads during the Reduced Loads Period.

Reduced load limits will be in effect where and when signs are posted.

WHEN SIGNS ARE POSTED, THE FOLLOWING ROADS WILL HAVE A REDUCED LOAD LIMIT FOR THEIR ENTIRE LENGTH:

County Roads 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 39, 48, 507 & 648-with the exception from CR 10 west to HWY 118.

On and after March 1st, check the County of Haliburton website www.haliburtoncounty.ca under "Notices" to see when reduced load limits are in effect and when they are lifted.



Municipality of Dysart et al

135 Maple Avenue,
P.O. Box 389
Haliburton, ON. K0M 1S0
Telephone: 705-457-1740
Email: info@dysartetal.ca



Fax: 705.457.1964
Website: www.dysartetal.ca

NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

- **DATE:** Wednesday, March 10th 2021
- **TIME:** 11:00 am.
- **LOCATION:** The Committee of Adjustment will be held as an electronic meeting only.
The meeting will be recorded through the conferencing application and live streamed to YouTube.

APPLICATIONS:

1. D13-MV-2020-017- Johnson and Leroux

- The following variances are requested to legalize the location of an existing private garage on a lot located in the WR4L zone:
 - a) A decrease to the provisions of Section 5.2 to permit a private garage to have a minimum interior lot line setback of 0.28 metres (0.92 feet) as opposed to required minimum of 1 metres (3.28 feet);
 - b) A decrease to the provisions of Section 3.30 to permit a private garage to have a minimum street setback from Indigo Lane of 0.73 metres (2.42 feet) as opposed to required minimum of 7.5 metres (24.60 feet).
- Location: Part Lot 15, Concession 10, Part Lot 16 Concession 10, Lot 14, Plan 395 in the geographic Township of Harburn, in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton (1023 Indigo Lane).

2. D13-2021-002- Mccoy

- The following variances are requested to permit the reconstruction of a dwelling on a lot in the WR4L zone, and permit an accessory building to be used for habitation:
 - a) An increase to the provisions of Section 3.19(a)(iv) to permit a dwelling within the required water setback abutting a shoreline to have a dimension parallel to the shoreline of 20.3 metres (66.6 feet) as opposed to the required maximum of 18.5 metres (60.7 feet);
 - b) A variance to 3.1(a) (ii), to permit an accessory building (sauna) to be used for habitation.
- Location: Part Lot 2, PCL 16, Concession 14 in the geographic Township of Havelock, in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton (Dennison Island- Kawagama Lake).

3. D13-MV-2021-004- Tredway

- The following variances are requested to legalize the location of an existing dwelling on a property in the WR4 zone:
 - a) A decrease to the provisions of Section 5.2 to permit a dwelling to have minimum water setback of 15.3 metres (50 feet) as opposed to the required minimum of 17 metres (56 feet) as permitted by Minor Variance D13-MV-1982-008;
 - b) A decrease to the provisions of Section 5.2 to permit a dwelling to have an interior side lot line of 3.2 metres (10.5 feet) as opposed to the required 4.5 metres (14.76 ft.).
- Location: Part Lot 20, Concession 3 to 4 in the geographic Township of Havelock, in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton (5171 Kennisis Lake Road).

Council passed By-law 2020-69 to amends the Committee of Adjustment of the Municipality of Dysart et al's Procedural By-law to permit electronic participation in meetings. **There will not be an in-person meeting; this meeting will be conducted in an electronic format only.**

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Secretary-Treasurer at jiles@dysartetal.ca.

ANY PERSON is entitled to attend the hearing to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by an agent for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept oral and written submissions. **A copy of the decision will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.**

FURTHER INFORMATION: including specific information about the zone provisions affected by each application, and electronic meeting process is available from the Planning and Land Information Department at the Municipal Office by appointment only (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Jeff Iles
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

100 years of Agnew's General Store having what you need

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Karen Knox remembers that the adventure-filled bike rides from her family's cottage on Big Straggle Lake to Agnew's General Store on Allen Lake in Harcourt Park began in the mid-1960s, around the time that her brother, Kent, was nine, and she was seven.

"Back then our parents didn't know where we were most of the time, and we were always safe," she told the *Echo*. "Not just my parents, everyone's parents – there were no telephones."

That smaller store was open simultaneously for a time with the Agnew family's flagship shop in Wilberforce, where Knox's parents bought big, juicy T-bone steaks when visiting their cottage from their home in Scarborough. But the treat that Knox remembers is the penny candy – the blackballs and pixie sticks, black licorice cigars and Lik-m-aid candy powder, all washed down with Orange Crush and Tahiti Treat – worth the bicycle ride she actively participated in to get to it.

"We'd buy candy and ride home," she wrote on the Agnew's General Facebook page. "Kent peddling and steering and me sitting on the back carrier. I'd jump off to push when necessary."

While Knox's nostalgic memories reflect her own childhood, the presence of Agnew's General Store in Highlands East has long held a place in the hearts of both residents and cottagers – this year, the historic landmark celebrates 100 years since Fred G. Agnew took on the store in 1921.

Fred had come to Canada from England solo, as a 16-year-old.

"It wasn't unheard of at the time, it was what you did, I guess," Cathy Agnew, Fred's granddaughter, said to the *Echo* in retelling his story.

He ended up in the Lindsay area, doing a number of jobs that included logging in the lumber camps and on the river drive, leading him to working for the railroad. His position as station agent in Gooderham gave him the opportunity to meet the woman – Mary Ellen (Mae) Dixon – who would become his wife in 1913, and then acquire a job as a travelling train agent on the Bancroft to Howland Junction route.

"He got to know the towns along the way, on the stops, and that's how he ended up knowing Mr. Reynolds, here in Wilberforce," said Cathy.

The history as to how Fred ended up working with S.W. Reynolds at his store after the railroad job, is part of the Agnew family lore, passed along by Fred's children to their children.

"We kind of feel that he left the railroad because he had an accident one night on the side car, which he wasn't supposed to use after dark, and took it out on the railroad tracks," said Cathy. "He was transporting a child who needed medical attention. Anyway, there was an accident and he lost his sight in one eye. He started working for Mr. Reynolds, and that's how he ended up, eventually, the owner of Agnew's General Store."

The history page on the Agnew's website said the store, originally a boarding house, exchanged hands with "no more than a verbal agreement and a handshake."

"Reynolds decided to eventually retire, and the story goes that he said to Fred, 'there's not enough money here for the two of us, why don't you take over the business?' and then Reynolds left town on the train, and Fred took over running the business for Reynolds, and eventually ended up buying the business from him," said Cathy. "We also heard that Fred didn't tell his wife until Reynolds was already gone, that they were now running the store."

By all accounts, Cathy said, Fred was an affable type. "He was very easy-going, he took to people," she said. "Mae probably had more of a business head on her than Fred."

Numerous people have told the Agnews over the years about the generosity of Fred as a shopkeeper, ensuring that nobody went without proper clothing or adequate food supply.

"Back in those days, everybody ran lines of credit, everybody had credit," said Cathy. "But Mae would get to the point where she would cut people off of credit – she was the authority figure in the store, I think. And we've been told that Fred would then sometimes slip out and catch up with the person and slip them a bit of money, eh?, to get them through."

The store, a general store then as it is today, sold everything from dried goods and cooking pots, everything that you might need in a house. In March of 1938, it burned in a fire, and the rebuilding of the store just down the street with a warehouse and house attached to it – the



Mae (Mary Ellen) and Fred Agnew. /Submitted

post office would come later – cost about \$300, "so we've been told," said Cathy. During construction between March and November that year, the store temporarily operated in the Orange Hall.

"But for years, they didn't have any furniture in the house," said Cathy. "There was nothing. Uncle Ross, who died a few years ago, he remembers when they built the house, them not having any furniture in it. They had four hard chairs, dining room chairs, and a table. It was years down the road before they could afford to furnish it."

The store was built with a 16-foot counter at the back, running across the store, which customers would approach with a list for the shopkeeper to fill. The counter was fitted with large drawers where flour, sugar, baking soda, raisins, dates and the like were stored.

"Ross got tired of walking out of the house, behind this counter, all the way to the end of it to get to the other part of the store, so one day he got the idea to cut it in half and make a walkway halfway down," said Cathy. "We still have part of that counter in the store here, that we use to this day. That's kind of a treat. We're happy to have this piece that we still have right now."

Cathy said that in those days, she was told everything came in on the train, which came through three days a week.

"The roads weren't open in the wintertime and were very poor quality in the summer," she said. "Everything had to come up in sleighs in the wintertime and carts in the summertime."

Popular tubs of ice cream would come from Silverwoods Dairy in Lindsay on those trains.

"It would come packed in dry ice, up on the train, and then they would put it in the freezers," said Cathy. "There was no hydro here then, so you would have to chip at the blocks of ice that came out of the lake in the wintertime, and store it in the ice shed packed in sawdust. That was part of Ross and Murray's job, to go out and chip the ice off these big blocks, and bring it in and pack it in around the tubs of ice cream to keep it frozen. They said it was an awful job doing that, but at the end of the day, the treat was that you could have some ice cream."

Fred Agnew died in 1945, at the age of 59, when his youngest son, Gary, was only 10 years old. After that, Murray Agnew received a discharge out of Trenton to help his mother run the store. Mae Agnew died a few years later, in 1951, at the age of 55.

Murray continued running the family business, with Gary finishing his schooling and joining to help at the age of 16.

"I know that he [Murray] was offered several different jobs over the years, but felt that this was his place," said Cathy, his daughter. He was the postmaster, as well, a job now managed by his eldest daughter, Mary Barker.

On Sept. 1, 1952, Murray married Eileen Taylor.

"The wedding had to be on Labour Day because that was one of the few days the store was closed," notes a history of the store's succession.

Murray carried on the legacy of his dad, bringing the community together and looking out for residents both inside and outside the store, occasionally going to bat for people who needed advocacy on political issues. Gary, who worked as the butcher at Agnew's, ended up joining council himself.

"Dad was such an outgoing and gregarious person. he loved to talk, and knew everybody," said Cathy.

Janette Packard, who lives on Wilbermere Lake, wrote on the store's anniversary post on social media that she remembers the post office in three different places, and a conveyor belt coming up from the basement.

"If you couldn't find it on the shelf, someone would go



The original store, owned by F.G. Agnew since 1921. It burned down in 1938 and was replaced with the building still standing today. /Submitted

upstairs or downstairs and 99 per cent of the time come back with what you needed in hand, or something that would do," she wrote. "There was a big book at the cash with all the accounts or tabs that people mostly paid on payday, but no one went without. Definitely a true general store and heart of the community. If they didn't have what you needed, no one did."

Ross Agnew, Fred and Mae's eldest son, ran a Gooderham store [now the Lucky Dollar] in the early 70s, before selling it and moving back to Wilberforce.

The park shop on Allen Lake in Harcourt Park that Knox rode her bike to for penny candy was open for about four or five years, Mary remembers, and was run by Mary and Cathy's mom, Eileen Agnew, and their aunt Bev, Gary's wife.

"It was promoted to the women as their chance to 'cottage,' while running a store six days a week and caring for six kids in very cramped living quarters attached to the more expansive store footage," said Mary. "The store closed on Thursdays. Wednesday night we came back to town. By Thursday night we were headed back to the park with a station wagon crammed full of grocery boxes and us kids packed in around them. If we hurried to unpack and got all the merchandise priced and on the shelves we got to stay up and watch 'Spine Tingler,' on a snowy TV and go to bed scared out of our minds. It was probably the birth of two more kids that made the women put their foot down and say they had had enough 'vacationing' in Harcourt Park."

Growing up, Cathy said, it was unique to be connected to the store.

"You always had a job, there were always things to do after school," she said. And then, laughing: "I have to admit, as a teenager, I did not work here because you had to work weekends. No, thank you. During summer break, I would find a different job."

In 2018, the store changed hands, from the Agnew family to Frank Meurer, who shares the initials F. G. with Fred Agnew. He had started coming to the area a few years prior to that for an interest in rockhounding. On one of his first visits to the store at that time, he said he walked around, "amazed at everything they had here ... this is a real general store."

"When it was for sale – and three years left before the

see CUSTOMERS page 14

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Remember when?

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

You may not remember where you were or what happened a week ago but you can't forget those significant annual events that you enjoyed so much.

A year ago, in January we were making sure that kilts and sashes of tartans were cleaned and pressed, that pipers knew their tunes well in mind, that haggis had been ordered for buffet at the end of dancing (both Highland and Scottish Country). All this in preparation for Burns Night.

In February, Kathleen Owens would have been calling on musicians, vocal and instrumental, to participate in the annual Valentine Day concert at Maple Lake United Church. Merrie Barry initiated this by asking Kathleen to arrange a concert, the funds of which would support church coffers. The idea went rolling from there, musicians happy to share their enthusiasm from keyboard, woodwind or strings. Albert Carpenter was a natural master of ceremonies and Judy, his wife, supplying the beautifully decorated and delicious cake as the crowning achievement in the buffet. That the participants enjoyed the occasion was evident in their call to ask to be included.

Later in that month the Pancake Tuesday was celebrated at the Legion, presented and served by members of the Anglican parish of St. George's and St. Margaret's. As you see, recent personal events may slip the mind, but those annual community times are not forgotten.

The death of another favourite resident in the county has happened in the passing of Carmen Lee from Extendicare on Feb. 16. Well known and well loved, he will surely be missed by Delores, his wife and family, and our hearts go out to all of them.

I recently heard from a listener to my "Tell Me a Sunday Story" on Canoe who expressed interest in the Nova Scotian story written by a favourite cousin. Bert Young had entertained Earl and me in his New Minors home. He was an artist as well. Many connections were renewed as a result of that phone call, so thanks, Julie for listening and responding so graciously.



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Highlands on
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REVIEW

Review of Draft Forest Management Plan Bancroft-Minden Forest 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Bancroft Minden Forest Company (BMFC) and the Bancroft-Minden Local Citizens' Committee (LCC) invite you to review and comment on the 2021-2031 Draft Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Bancroft-Minden Forest.

The Planning Process

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public consultation and First Nation and Métis community involvement and consultation are provided. The third opportunity (Stage Three) for this FMP occurred from January 4, 2021 to February 2, 2021, when the public was invited to review and comment on proposed operations for the ten-year period of the FMP. This 'Stage Four' notice is to invite you to:

- review and comment on the draft FMP; and
- contribute to the background information.

Comments from the public will be considered in revisions to the draft FMP.

How to Get Involved

The Draft FMP and the Draft FMP summary will be available electronically on the Natural Resources Information Portal <https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online> and can be made available by contacting the Bancroft Minden Forest Company, contact listed below, during normal office hours for a period of 60 days from **March 19, 2021 to May 17, 2021**. Comments on the draft FMP for the Bancroft-Minden Forest must be received by Ernie Demuth of the planning team, by **May 17, 2021**.

In addition to the most current versions of the information and maps which were previously available, the following information can be obtained electronically on the Natural Resources Information Portal <https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online> to assist you in your review:

- Draft FMP, including supplementary documentation;
- Draft FMP summary;
- Final Draft Report on Protection of Identified First Nation and Métis Values (only if the First Nation and Métis communities agree).

The Information Forum related to the review of Draft Forest Management Plan will be held via individual or group remote meetings which may be arranged by calling the individuals listed below during the review period. Remote meetings with representatives of the planning team and the LCC can be also requested at any time during the planning process. Reasonable opportunities to remotely meet planning team members during non-business hours will be provided upon request. If you require more information or wish to discuss your interests with a planning team member, please contact one of the individuals listed below:

Ernie Demuth, R.P.F.
Management Forester
Ministry of Natural Resources
and Forestry
tel: 613-202-2208
e-mail: ernie.demuth@ontario.ca

Svetlana Zeran, R.P.F.
Plan Author
Bancroft Minden Forest Company
tel: 613-332-6890
e-mail: svetlana@bmfc.ca

Jane Dumas
Bancroft-Minden Local Citizens'
Committee (LCC)
e-mail: mayor@southalgonquin.ca

During the planning process, there is an opportunity to make a written request to seek resolution of issues with the MNRF District Manager or the Regional Director using a process described in the 2020 *Forest Management Planning Manual (Part A, Section 2.4.1)*.

The last possible date to seek issue resolution with the MNRF Regional Director is **June 1, 2021**.

Stay Involved

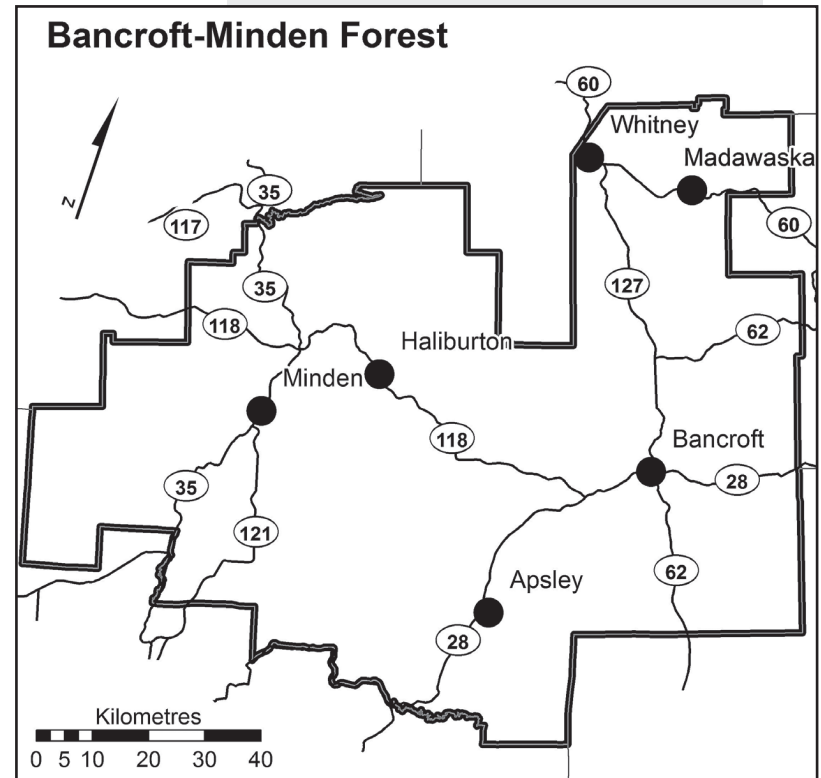
Further information on how to get involved in forest management planning and to better understand the stages of public consultation please visit the following link:

<https://www.ontario.ca/document/participate-forest-management-ontario/how-get-involved-forest-management>

The MNRF-approved FMP will be available for inspection for the 10-year duration of the FMP **Stage Five** - Inspection of the MNRF-approved FMP.

The approval date of the FMP is tentatively scheduled for **August 2021**.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority provided by the Forest Management Planning Manual, 2020 approved by regulation under Section 68 of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994*. Any personal information you provide (home and/or email address, name, telephone number, etc.) may be used and shared between MNRF and/or the sustainable forest licensee to contact you regarding comments submitted. Your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may also be used by the MNRF to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Shari MacDonald, Regional Information Management Specialist by e-mail: shari.macdonald@ontario.ca.



Customers happy beloved general store is still standing

from page 12

100 years - and I loved the store myself as a customer, I went OK, is this possible to do?" said Meurer. "I lucked out."

Despite the sale, sisters Mary, Cathy and Wynne are still very much involved at the store.

"When I purchased it, I made sure that the agreement came with it that the Agnews' family had to stay," he laughed. "This is Agnew's store and I need your touch, your feel ... Everybody's been very supportive, the community has accepted me and likes me - just because I haven't changed things."

"When I say hi to the Agnew girls, they still remember me," said Knox, who ended up buying the family cottage in 1994.

"It's interesting to watch the community grow and change," said Cathy.

Despite the years going by in the community - Cathy notes the setbacks of the current pandemic, and also the loss of the lumber industry - she said she is hoping it will continue to grow; she has noticed more and more young people have been moving to the area.



The "new" Agnew's - later the post office would be added to the building. /Submitted photo

As times have changed, so has the store - from what is sold, to the method in which goods are sold, and even how people shop, doing so with more independence now although visiting with other shoppers and a genial closeness to store employees still very much occurs. Meurer said it's common for people to share stories, and to hear "I remember when ..."

"They'll be chatting and I love hearing the laughter," said Meurer. "I can just hear the laughter at the front end, from the customers interacting with the people who work here. That's another thing I love about this place, everybody who works here is really a part of the store,

they're not just an employee of the store. One of the people here told me she loves working here, and to me, that means everything."

A website to allow for online sales is being developed, and clever merchandise posts on the store's Facebook page virtually draw in customers old and new. A future look-back on the store's history will see that despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Agnew's thrived at being the general store the community needed when so much else had shut down, working to provide the essential service of mail distribution but also providing a town cornerstone to keep face-to-face greetings

- even behind masks - going in the rural area.

"We need to service this community and that's definitely something we strive to do in the best way possible," said Meurer.

"It's very heartwarming," said Cathy, of the customers who care about the store and share their memories of it with the staff. "People are genuinely happy that it's still operating and there are people who make a point of coming in and spending their dollar here, because they want it to stay here. That's really, really heartwarming."

"Agnew's General Store has been at the heart of downtown Wilberforce for 100 years and hopefully it won't miss a beat over the next 100," said Mary.

Centenary celebrations will be held throughout the year, spreading events out so the community can help mark the milestone occasion year round.

For more information about Agnew's General Store, visit agnews.ca or stay up-to-date with anniversary celebrations via <https://www.facebook.com/agnews.wilberforce>.

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Cardiff pool project encounters issues

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The recommendation to council is to focus on meeting provincial requirements for the Cardiff pool when it comes to renovations said Shannon Hunter, Highlands East Township CAO and treasurer at the virtual Highlands East council meeting on Feb. 9.

The Cardiff pool construction project, which was approved for \$377,472 late last year, has started with the removal of everything from the mechanical room, while a new concrete floor was added. Currently, a pavilion is being constructed to allow for the new liner to be installed.

Hunter said there have been a few issues with the pump and filters in the mechanical room related to the construction work to improve and enable the pool to meet accessibility standards.

"We're also required, because it is a public pool ... to purchase a chemical pump that automatically keeps the right amount of chemicals in the water and these expenses are quite high and there is a high possibility if we wish to stay within our budget figures that we're going to have to forego something else that we were planning to do and so one of the things I want council to consider is that we remove the [purchase of] heater for

the pool in order to cover the costs," she said after the presentation of the monthly operational report for parks and recreation given by James Alden.

In an emailed response after the meeting, Hunter said, "The filters are very dated and cracked so need to be replaced."

The other items are installing an automatic chemical controller, backwash tank and new ladder. Total cost is \$18,365. The extra costs are being found within the contract."

The project plan originally included the construction of an accessible bathroom and change room and includes adding a commercial grade pool liner, upgrading filtration, pool heater, the mechanical room ceiling, stairs and the concrete floor.

Councillor Cam McKenzie asked if a heater could be installed easily later, if the pool heater is not part of this work.

Hunter said she will inquire about ensuring the required wiring for a heater can be in place for a future installation of a heater.

Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall wondered if money could be saved by deferring from "ancillary" features of the building such as the change rooms in favour of the critical hardware to run the facility.

"I'm not saying we should, I'm asking could we inquire about [if] that would be a possible option as

“

I believe the heater is a nice thing to have ... I strongly encourage that is the area if we have to reduce costs that is what we look at.

— Shannon Hunter, Highlands East CAO

well," he said.

Hunter highlighted the requirement for the township to meet accessibility standards, saying "it's really recommended the change rooms be addressed."

"I believe the heater is a nice thing to have. It's not a requirement for the functionality of the pool so in order to have the best that we can ... I strongly encourage that is the area if we have to reduce costs that is what we look at," she said.



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Skills: English-speaking, Child-care experience,
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY @ABBEY GARDENS **Garden Manager**

We are currently seeking a Garden Manager to be
an integral part of the staff team. The manager will
be responsible for developing and implementing the
plan for vegetable production; contribute to
educational garden development, oversee The
Growcer (hydroponic unit); collaborate on the
development of the Big Pit restoration; and assist
with work on the overall property as time permits.

This is a full time position with potential for year
round hours.

For full job description please go to <https://abbeygardens.ca/get-involved/#jobs>.

Applications can be submitted via email to
cara@abbeygardens.ca

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400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires four (4) Seasonal Flagperson/Labourers

The successful applicant will have experience in traffic control and be able to perform heavy manual labour duties in an outside environment.

The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$17.65.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to abull@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than March 7, 2021.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

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Send cover letter & resume to...
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Carpenter

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Experience in landscaping, gardening, carpentry and stonework an asset but not necessary...
Must have own transportation...

Send resume to... info@blackrocklandscapes.ca
tel: 705-457-4574By Appointment Only!



The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires an Engineering Student For the period of April 19th to August 27th

The successful applicant must be currently attending a civil engineering program, proficient with Microsoft Office Suite, familiar with Total Station Surveys, ArcGIS, AutoCAD and have a valid G drivers licence. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are required.

The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$22.03.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to abull@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than March 7, 2021.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



Cleaning Services Onondaga Camp, Minden, seeks 5 Staff SEASONAL (2021) Starting at \$14.25/hr

We are looking for Cleaners to care for our facilities by providing a high standard of cleaning and light maintenance duties. The goal is to keep all facilities in a clean and orderly condition. Responsibilities are to clean and stock designated facility areas (disinfecting, dusting, sweeping, vacuuming, mopping, restroom cleaning etc.), carry out heavy cleansing tasks and special projects, notify management of occurring deficiencies or needs for repairs, stock and maintain supply rooms, cooperate with the rest of the staff, follow all health and safety regulations, knowledge of cleaning chemicals and supplies, familiarity with Material Safety Data Sheets.

To protect the health and safety of our clients and employees, we have modified our normal operating policies in response to COVID-19.

Up to 40 hour work week Spring and Fall.
Up to 48 hour work week Summer (6 days).
Daily and Evening shifts available. (June-Sept)
NO ACCOMODATION PROVIDED

If you wish to apply, please send a resume to Matt Brown/Site Manager at matt@onondagacamp.com. Please feel free to contact at (705-286-5025)


A truly Canadian summer tradition, Onondaga Camp offers an extraordinary environment for kids to play, explore, achieve and grow. Situated on the shores of Middle Bob Lake near Minden, Ontario, Onondaga inspires the best in outdoor fun, learning and adventure for girls and boys from six to 16 years old. Onondaga Camp values the diversity of people. We welcome and encourage applications from people with disabilities. Arrangements will be provided, on request, to support candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. All responses will be handled with strict confidence.

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520 THANK YOU



Ray

On behalf of our family, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Staff at Highland Wood, Dr. Heyes, and Dr. Gilmore for the wonderful care that you have provided in caring for our Dad, Ray Sisson. He was the last one in a long Era and will be missed deeply. A heartfelt thank you to everyone.

The Sisson Family

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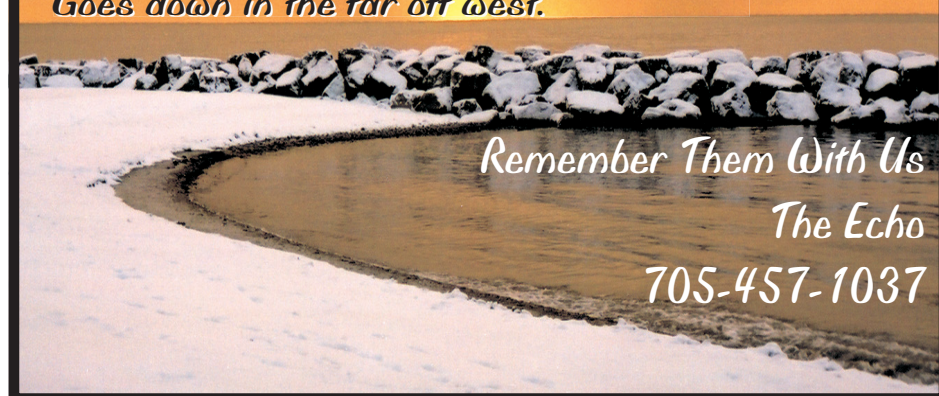


ANNOUNCEMENTS

640 IN MEMORIAM

*Our thoughts go wandering,
When daylight fades.
To the land of long ago.
And memory paints the scenes of old,
In the gold of the twilight glow.
We seem to see in the soft dim light,
The faces we loved the best,
And think of them when the sun's last ray,
Goes down in the far off west.*

Remember Them With Us
The Echo
705-457-1037



640 IN MEMORIAM



650 OBITUARIES

PRITCHARD, Joan Hazel (nee Bluett)

Passed away peacefully with family by her side on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at Chartwell Long Term Care in Elmira in her 90th year.

Predeceased by her husband Edward (2015). Cherished mother to Sharon Thompson, Evelyn "Lyn" Bullington (Larry) and Tammy Payne (Ken). Loving grandmother to Jessica, Sandra (Cory), Jeremy, Cory (Kellie), Katie, Rebecca (Chris), Sara (Brian), Shelby and Kacey. She also leaves behind 8 great grandchildren and will also be missed by many nieces, nephews and friends. Joan is predeceased by her 4 siblings and her son Steven.

Cremation has taken place. A private family service will take place at a later date. Donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society or to the Chartwell Elmira LTC care of the Chateau Gardens Auxiliary at 11 Herbert St., Elmira ON, N3B 2B8. Arrangements entrusted to the McBeath-Dynes Funeral Home, Ingersoll ON, N5C 2T7. Condolences may be posted at www.mcbeathdynes.ca

650 OBITUARIES

THE ECHO AND RECORDER, Wednesday, February 22, 1984, Page 7

Skating Carnival 84:

Parents delighted as youngsters skate with enthusiasm

The Dysart arena took on an air of fantasy last Sunday afternoon as the Haliburton Figure Skating Club staged their annual carnival. An estimated 450 parents, relatives and friends were on hand to enjoy the show, which capped months of work by club instructors, executive members and parents.

A thin veil of mist rising from the ice added to the atmosphere as youngsters in delightful costumes portrayed "Smurfs in Strawberryland". A total of 16 numbers were performed, including several solos by skaters who will take part in inter club competitions later in the season.

Youngsters who took part in the show included Noelle LaRue, Danielle LaRue, Crystal Bain, Joanne Smith, Jenny Smith, Carrie Billings, Lianne Scheffee, Fraenzi Greber, Tanya Easton, Karen Elstone, Tracey Popple, Margaret Reiss, Eliza O'Neill, Carrie Martin, Leslie Burke, Cindy Byers, Carrie Baker, Teresa Scheffee, Lauren Wilson, Andrea Wilson, Andrea Black, Heather Bailey, Sabrina Pringle, Jeremy Scheffee, Brett Wilson, Benjamin Ripley, Margaret Teljeur, Cheryl Smith, Kim Oldrich, Shannon Stinson, Chriss Scott, Angela Brown, Angela Scott, Michelle Simms, Jennifer Scheffee, and from the Minden club, Sandy Bailey, Abby Burk, Wanda Blakey, Misty Campbell, Kelli Dollo, Diane Garbutt, Jennifer Gentle, Julie Hall, Sara Lee Henderson, Janna Obie, Tammy Joe Pritchard and Tanya Willis.

Assisting Club instructor Penny Bird in staging the show were club president Arlene Scheffee, secretary Debbie Wilson, treasurer Rhonda Elstone, executive members Wanda Byers, Margaret Scheffee, Dorothy Black, Christine Bailey, Emily LaRue, and announcer Dorothy Baker.



Noelle LaRue in a solo number.



Tanya Easton skates to a lively tune.



Carrie Martin waits for the music to start.



Eliza O'Neill enjoyed her part in the show.



Sabrina Pringle, Heather Bailey, Brett Wilson and Benjamin Ripley in a dance number.



Eliza O'Neill, Jenny Smith, Danielle LaRue, Carrie Billings and Noelle LaRue perform in the opening number.



Benjamin Ripley plays to the crowd.



Waiting for the show to begin are, from left: Lianne Scheffee, Noelle LaRue, Carrie Billings, Cindy Byers, Margaret Reiss, Karen Elstone, and kneeling, Fraenzi Greber, Danielle LaRue, Carrie Martin.



These happy skaters are, front row, from left: Andrea Black, Sabrina Pringle, Heather Bailey; back row: Carrie Baker, Jennifer Scheffee, Laura Wilson, Angela Brown, Andrea Wilson, Teresa Scheffee.

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The Haliburton Real Estate Team

**COMMERCIAL
THE LAKE VIEW MOTEL
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One of Haliburton's most popular Motels. The Lakeview Motel offers 14 motel rms and personal living quarters. Immaculate grounds and very well maintained buildings. Turnkey operation. Lovely inground pool, 4 hot tubs, horseshoe pit, dining room, BBQ's and much more offered to guests. Personal living quarters with 3 bdrms, 2 baths, 2 living rms and kitchen/dining area. Huge potential to expand on this 3.78-acre parcel.



**LITTLE KENNISIS LAKE
\$1,200,000**



Perched on top of a Canadian Shield cliff with gorgeous lake views. 3-bdrm, 2.5 bath home/cottage has the perfect marriage of modern style with log cabin coziness. Bright, open concept main floor living. The chef of your family will love this kitchen. Large, lake-facing second floor mezzanine master bdrm and 4 pc ensuite. Double detached heated garage with loft. Plenty of opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Haliburton scenery from five different decks and large floating dock. You will get true full-year enjoyment from your very own lake house.

**SALERNO LAKE
\$749,500**



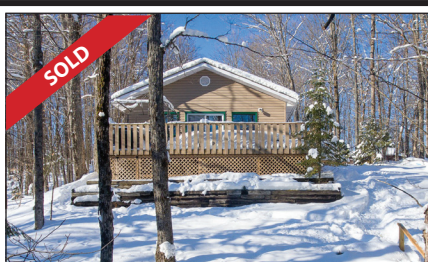
4-bdrm, 2 bath cottage is designed for the whole family to enjoy. 102+ft of frontage. Bright open concept kitchen and dining room. Living area features a beautiful stone, wood burning fireplace. Massive 3 season enclosed screen porch with fantastic lakefront views. Many recent upgrades. Level backyard with ample space. Lakefront firepit with a low sloping terrain and stairs to the waterfront. Shallow entry to deep diving off dock

**KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE
\$679,000**



Imagine waking up every day to the beautiful view of Lake Kashagawigamog. Year-round waterfront living without paying lakefront taxes! This 3-bdrm, 2 bath home is located across the road from Haliburton's most popular Lake. Large open concept kitchen. Spacious living room finished with a granite fireplace. Excellent swimming for all ages with nice sand shoreline and wetslip boathouse across the road on municipal lands.

**NEGAUNEE LAKE
\$489,900**



Built in 1992 and situated on a year-round municipal road. The cottage features 3 bdrms and 1 bath, open concept kitchen, living rm and dining area with large picture windows. Many upgrades have been completed including new roof and siding. Outside the stairs lead you down to the waterfront and dock. Shoreline is rock and sand mix. Beautiful views of the undeveloped forest across the lake. Public access and boat launch for Miskwabi Lake is just a few minutes away.

KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE \$479,000



This cute and cozy 2-bdrm, 1 bath home. Located in the heart of Ingoldsby. Many recent improvements include, flooring throughout, windows, drilled well, new propane furnace and many more. Updated kitchen with white cabinetry and granite counter tops. The beautiful Haliburton room with stunning lake views. Great aluminum docking system and excellent swimming and fishing across the road.

**DRAG RIVER
\$399,000**



Charming 2-bdrm, 1 bath seasonal cottage. Large wrap around deck to enjoy the stunning riverfront views or the beautiful scenery Haliburton County offers. Large eat-in kitchen finished with white cabinetry and ample natural lighting. Large unfinished walk-out basement. 250ft of frontage on Drag River and ample privacy. Excellent canoeing, Kayaking and ample swimming.

**WILLIAMS LANDING
\$59,900**



Fractional ownership is stress free! Own this fully furnished 3-bdrm, 2 bath cottage with 9 others. Bright open concept living, pine flooring and propane fireplace. Williams Landing offers 4 shared docks, sand beaches, stunning hiking trails and more. Annual maintenance fee includes everything from cottage and yard maintenance, electricity, cottage cleaning, internet, phone and more. Enjoy Kashagawigamog Lake five weeks of the year.

**CHANDLER POINT
\$55,700**



Experience the freedom of fractional ownership in Chandler Point on beautiful Kashagawigamog Lake. A fully furnished, 3 bdrm/2 bath cottage steps from the beach and outdoor activities. Bring your personal items and groceries to enjoy a maintenance free cottage life. Chandler Point offers a boat dock, canoes/kayaks for use, a playing field and campfire site located on the point to take in amazing views. Annual fee includes property taxes, maintenance and contribution to a reserve fund for ongoing improvements to the cottage and land. Allotted 5 weeks use through the year and shared with 9 owners.

**SOLD
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30TH LINE
\$69,900**

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